

joint. Obstruction of sigmoid with a palpable abdominal mass. Undescended testicle: Inguinal hernia. Gustav Kolischer and J. S. Eisenstaedt: Papilloma of bladder. Muscle-splitting incision for exposure of kidney. D. B. Phemister: Ankylosis of jaw following rheumatism: Arthroplasty. R. L. Moodie: Use of cautery among meolithic and later primitive peoples. R. H. Herbst: Unusually large prostate gland. Ulcer of bladder. A. H. Montgomery: Two cases of muscle injury.

Diseases of the Chest and the Principles of Physical Diagnosis, by George W. Norris, M. D., Assistant Professor of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, and Henry R. M. Landis, M. D., Assistant Professor of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, with a chapter on **Electrocardiograph in Heart Disease**, by Edward Krumbhaar, Ph. M. D., Assistant Professor of Research Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania. Second edition; thoroughly revised. Octavo Volume of 844 pages with 433 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1920. Cloth, \$8.00 net.

Norris and Landis, in the second edition of their excellent book on "Diagnosis of Chest Conditions," have given the profession an enlarged and improved work. It has been brought right up to date through the addition of descriptions on pulmonary conditions produced by the recent great epidemics such as streptococcus empyema. The authors discuss chronic inflammatory conditions of the lungs of uncertain etiology on two pages. We are glad to see so important a subject discussed and believe that more space should be devoted to it. Under this heading we should like also to find a discussion of a fairly numerous group of cases which for want of a better name we call non-tuberculosis.

Parts one and two devoted to examinations of the lungs and of the circulatory system are arranged practically the same as in the first edition and remarkable for their detail. No possible physical sign or symptom of pulmonary or circulatory disease is omitted. These chapters are numerous and beautifully illustrated, some illustrations being the usual standard ones, some original with the authors. In fact, the outstanding merit of the entire volume lies in the clarity of exposition supported by appropriate photographs and drawings.

The same detail is carried out in the chapters devoted to special diseases. All the newer diagnostic methods on asthma, particularly the theories of Walker, Rackemann, and Cooke, receive exhaustive mention. In fact, wherever one turns, whether to the chapters on physical diagnosis or those on special diseases, one finds the newest theories and facts and is impressed with the knowledge that this second edition is really revised and in many places rewritten.

This review would be incomplete without a special and commendatory mention of Krumbhaar's excellent chapters on the electrocardiograph.

W. C. V.

Gynoplastic Technology. By Arnold Sturmdorf. 334 pp. Illustrated. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Company. 1919.

This book is for the most part devoted to plastic operations of a gynecological character and the ground covered ranges from a general discussion of the subject, tracheloplasty, chronic endometritis and repair of the lacerated perineum and related conditions to fistulae, malformations of the vagina, vulva and bladder. Whatever opinions one may hold regarding the views expressed and developed by the author it must be conceded that his discussions are not only timely and suggestive,

but generally stimulating, sometimes original and always interesting. This is no place to discuss the merits of the author's views; suffice it to say that the argument is essentially a protest against prevailing conceptions regarding the pathology of certain gynecological disorders and against certain operative procedures practiced for their cure.

The interest of most readers will undoubtedly be aroused by the section on tears of the cervix and endocervicitis, and that on perineorrhaphy both of which subjects are rather extensively discussed. The author maintains that cervical tears are in themselves generally of little symptomatic importance but that the "fundamental dominant that establishes the morbidity of any cervical lesion is the incidence of infection." And such infection ultimately eventuates in a symptom-complex—chronic endocervicitis—which alone constitutes the basis of the symptomatology and gives the indications and direction of the operative treatment. Trachelorrhaphy and cervical amputation are discarded by the author as inefficient and harmful procedures in lieu of which he practices an endocervical mucosa from the external to the internal os, with preservation of its muscular structure with accurate re-lining of the denuded canal by a cylindrical cuff of its vaginal sheath—I do not claim an ideal restitution to the normal in all cases. So perfectly a balanced mechanism as the uterus, when once deranged, can not be perfectly restored by surgery. But I may contend that the procedure here advocated obviates in the greatest number of cases the detailed shortcomings in the prevailing tracheloplastic methods and results." The same operation is also practiced with apparently good results, in the author's hands, for sterility of cervical origin.

The piece de resistance is unquestionably the section on perineorrhaphy which includes rather full discussions of the mechanism of intrapelvic visceral support, the levator and muscle, pelvic fascia, and levator myorrhaphy. "The keynote in the clinical significance and surgical indications of perineal lacerations is the loss of gynecic support, and the study of its function in the control of intra-abdominal pressure. Concisely stated the levator ani diminishes the force of intra-abdominal pressure upon the pelvic contents by deflecting the direction of that pressure, augments the resistance to the pressure by closing the uterovaginal angle, and obstructs the pelvic outlet against the pressure by compressing the vaginal canal." With this in mind the author proceeds to describe an operation which he believes results in the restitution of anatomic relations as to restore as far as possible physiological as well as mechanical support to the pelvic contents.

To sum up, it may be said that here we have an unusual book of considerable merit built of an observing experience, critical reflection and deep convictions, well worth the reading by those interested in the problems of which it treats. The novelty of presentation is both refreshing and suggestive and the directness and clearness of style compel attention.

A. J. L.

El Retiro, The New School for Girls

By MIRIAM VAN WATERS, Superintendent

One of the most interesting social experiments ever undertaken is El Retiro, the new school for girls, established in August, 1919, by the board of supervisors of Los Angeles county. The aim of the new school is to re-educate young girls who are wards of the juvenile court. It is perhaps the first instance in this country where a county